

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-03

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FM USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (CHENG, DOROTHY FISCHER)

SUBJECT: W/W DOROTHY FISCHER CHENG

REF: (A) STATE 209430 (B) PEKING 1615

1. MRS. DOROTHY FISCHER CHENG INFORMED USLO ON SEPT 25 THAT SHE HAD ALREADY PURCHASED HER TICKETS TO ARRIVE IN NEW YORK CITY PER REF (B) AT 1335 HOURS ON SEPT 29. SHE BELIEVED IT WAS TOO LATE TO CHANGE AND WE DID NOT TRY TO PERSUADE HER TO DO SO. MRS. CHENG SAID CHINESE WILL PERMIT HER TO TAKE US DOLS 1000 WITH HER AND SHE HAS DOLS 196 IN CASH AND A DOLS 800 CHECK ON CHARTERED BANK, NYC. SHE WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR HEW ASSISTANCE AS SHE HAS NO SOURCE OF INCOME BUT SHE SAYS SHE DOES NOT HAVE AN IMMEDIATE NEED. HER CHINESE HUSBAND IS PAYING FOR HER TRIP TO US AND PROVIDING HER WITH ABOVE FUNDS.
 2. MRS. CHENG ASKED THAT RESERVATIONS BE MADE FOR HER IN AN INEXPENSIVE HOTEL IN MANHATTAN FOR SEVERAL DAYS. SHE ALSO ASKED THAT HER 80-YEAR OLD SISTER, MISS BEATRICE FISCHER, 101 LAFAYETTE AVE., BROOKLYN, BE TOLD OF HER ARRIVAL BUT THAT MISS FISCHER BE ASSURED MRS. CHENG HAS NO INTENTION OF LIVING WITH HER OR IMPOSING ON HER. MRS. CHENG ALSO HAS A FRIEND, MRS. DOROTHY DAY, WHO FORMERLY RAN THE ST. JOSEPH'S HOME OF HOSPITALITY IN NYC. MRS. CHENG HAS STAYED WITH MRS. DAY IN THE PAST AND HAS CORRESPONDED WITH HER BUT IS UNSURE OF HER PRESENT STATUS. MRS. CHENG ALSO PLANS TO CONTACT HER LAWYER IN NYC,
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A MR. I. NEEDLEMAN.

3. MRS. CHENG HAS HAD A RECENT PHYSICAL CHECK-UP AND SHE SAYS CHINESE HAVE FOUND HER BASICALLY HEALTHY FOR A 71-YEAR OLD WITH HER BELEAGUED BACKGROUND. SHE HAS HAD MENTAL PROBLEMS FOR ALMOST TEN YEARS AND WAS IN NEUROPSYCHIATRIC CLINIC AT BELLEVUE HOSPITAL IN NYC AS LATE AS 1966. HER MIND WANDERS. SHE CAN HAVE TOTAL RECALL OF EVENTS IN HANGCHOW 40 YEARS AGO BUT CANNOT REMEMBER WHAT SHE WAS SAYING FIVE MINUTES AGO. SHE BREAKS DOWN INTO TEARS EASILY AND IS OUTSPOKEN ABOUT HER EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS. MRS. CHENG HAS HINTED THAT SHE IS THINKING ABOUT EXPOSING THE CRUELITIES OF HER LIFE IN CHINA AFTER CONSULTING A PROTESTANT CLERGYMAN AND LAWYER. SHE REALIZES, HOWEVER, HER FAMILY WILL STILL BE HERE AND SUBJECT TO PRESSURE. THIS POSES A DILEMMA FOR HER. WE HAVE COUNSELED HER TO GO VERY CAREFULLY ON THIS.

4. SHE DOES NOT ASK TO BE MET AND SAYS SHE CAN HANDLE HERSELF. SHE IS A TOUGH BIRD AND PROBABLY CAN. DESPITE INCONVENIENCE OF SUNDAY ARRIVAL, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE BEST IF SOMEBODY DID MEET HER. SHE HAS EXPRESSED HER GRATITUDE TO USLO AND SAYS USLO HAS DONE ENOUGH FOR HER ALREADY.
HOLDRIDGE

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